

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 ERDE-00 NRC-05 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 /095 W

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FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1212

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0449

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: INFORMAL SESSION WITH EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES
OF OCTOBER 6, 1975

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IN THE OCTOBER 6 INFORMAL SESSION OF
THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS, THE ALLIES WERE REPRESENTED BY THE
CANADIAN REP, FRG REP AND US REP, AND THE EAST BY SOVIET
REPS KHESTOV AND SMIRNOVSKY, CZECHOSLOVAK REP LAHODA AND NEW
POLISH REP DABROWA. THE SESSION WAS STANDARD WITH NO SUR-
PRISES. EASTERN REPS REPEATED CHARGES THAT THE NATO PARTICI-
PANTS WERE BUILDING UP THEIR FORCES DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS.
WHEN ALLIED REPS POINTED OUT THE PACT WAS INCREASING ITS
ARMAMENTS IN THE REDUCTION AREA DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS, EASTERN
REPS DID NOT ANSWER THIS CHARGE, BUT INSTEAD URGED THAT RENEWED CON-
SIDERATION BE GIVEN TO THE EASTERN FREEZE PROPOSAL. KHESTOV CLAIMED

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THAT THE EAST HAD MADE A GENUINE COMPROMISE ON

THE QUESTION OF WHOSE FORCES SHOULD BE REDUCED FROM THE OUTSET BY PROPOSING THAT PREVIOUSLY AGREED REDUCTIONS SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED BY US AND SOVIETS FIRST. ALLIED REPS SAID EAST HAD MADE ONLY TACTICAL REARRANGEMENT OF ORIGINAL PROGRAM AND INVITED EAST TO SHOW REAL FLEXIBILITY ON PHASING.

2. KHLESTOV LED OFF WITH REFERENCE TO CSCE FINAL ACT, SAYING THERE WAS A COMMON OBLIGATION TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE NEW SITUATION CREATED BY CSCE IN SEARCH FOR PROGRESS IN VIENNA TALKS. HE REVIEWED ORIGINAL EASTERN DRAFT PROPOSAL AND STRESSED SUBSEQUENT EASTERN MODIFICATIONS AND NEED FOR WEST TO MOVE. CANADIAN REP PRESENTED MAIN VALUES UNDERLYING WESTERN POSITION IN VIENNA TALKS AND POINTED OUT THAT EAST HAD THUS FAR FAILED TO ADDRESS THESE INTERESTS SERIOUSLY. CZECHOSLOVAK REP LAHODA ACCUSED WEST OF SYSTEMATIC FAILURE TO LIVE UP TO UNDERSTANDINGS REFLECTED IN FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF PREPARATORY TALKS AND RENEWED ACCUSATION THAT WEST WAS BUILDING UP ITS FORCES DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS. FRG REP POINTED OUT THAT WEST WAS NOT INCREASING ITS MANPOWER AND THAT NO UNDERSTANDING HAD BEEN REACHED WHICH WOULD PRECLUDE FORCE IMPROVEMENTS, IN WHICH BOTH SIDES WERE ENGAGED. HE GAVE SOME PARTICULARS OF EASTERN ARMAMENTS INCREASES ON LINES USED IN INFORMAL SESSIONS OF JUNE 17 AND 24, 1975.

3. KHLESTOV DID NOT ADDRESS DIRECTLY FRG REP'S REMARKS ABOUT EASTERN FORCE INCREASES. INSTEAD, HE SUGGESTED PARTICIPANTS LOOK ONCE AGAIN AT POSSIBILITY OF A COMMITMENT BY ALL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS NOT TO INCREASE THE SIZE OF THEIR TOTAL ARMED FORCE MANPOWER DURING THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

4. FRG REP POINTED OUT DEFECTS OF EASTERN NO-INCREASE APPROACH. US REP TOLD EASTERN REPS THAT WESTERN REPS DID NOT CONSIDER EASTERN CLAIM TO HAVE SHOWN FLEXIBILITY TO BE A CONVINCING ONE. EAST HAD MERELY REARRANGED STANDARD ELEMENTS OF ITS POSITION. KHLESTOV DISPUTED THIS. HE CLAIMED EASTERN PROPOSAL FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF STAGES ONE AND TWO OF EASTERN DRAFT AGREEMENT BY US AND SOVIETS IN FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1975 AND 1976 WITH REMAINING DIRECT PARTICIPANTS REDUCING IN SECOND HALF OF EACH YEAR WAS A DIRECT ANSWER TO THE AGREED QUESTION OF WHOSE FORCES SHOULD BE REDUCED FROM THE OUTSET, AN ANSWER WHICH WAS A GENUINE
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COMPROMISE BECAUSE IT DEPARTED FROM THE ORIGINAL EASTERN PROPOSAL THAT ALL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS SHOULD NOT ONLY COMMIT THEMSELVES FROM THE OUTSET TO MAKE REDUCTIONS, BUT SHOULD ALSO REDUCE SIMULTANEOUSLY.

9. AT THE END OF THE SESSION, KHLESTOV SUGGESTED THAT PARTICIPANTS MIGHT CONTINUE WITH THEIR PRACTICE OF PARALLEL DISCUSSION OF TOPICS AND OF DEFINITIONS ISSUE AND SUGGESTED

THAT NEXT SESSION, TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 14, MIGHT DEAL WITH
THE DEFINITIONS ISSUE AND TAKE PLACE WITH PARTICIPATION
OF MILITARY ADVISERS. AS PREVIOUSLY AGREED IN AD HOC GROUP,
ALLIED REPS CONCURRED. END SUMMARY.

REMAINDER OF REPORT SENT VIA AIRGRAM.RESOR

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